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I pray Almighty God that the words I write in this house may be pure and honest—that they be dictated by no personal spite, unworthy motive or unjust greed for gain; that they may tell the truth as far as I know it—and tend to promote love and peace—amongst men.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1928

THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

Announcement has been made that the session of the Ontario legislature is to open on February 9 next, and the expectation has been voiced that it will be a light session, with few matters of a very contentious nature to be discussed. There will possibly be some debates on proposed amendments to the liquor control act, and announcements of tax reductions, but, for the most part, the legislative program is of a technical nature which will not arouse a great deal of public interest.

With this program, the Ferguson government will have little difficulty in putting through its legislation in quick order. This is true, not so much because of the excellence of the program as it is owing to the outstanding weakness of the opposition. For all practical purposes, there might as well be no opposition. The minority body in the house is not only so small as to be of little effect in a division, but it is divided in two by the persistence of the Progressive and Liberal forces in remaining separate. This division is not felt so much in the divisions of the legislature, as it is noticed in the debates. A divided opposition cannot hope to be nearly so effective as one which presents a solid and united front to the government of the day.

CRIMINALS ARE WEAKLINGS

It is very encouraging to note that newspapers all over this country are beginning to consider seriously and discuss openly the degraded position in which a young man voluntarily places himself when he enters a life of crime. The romantic side of a criminal's career is being properly relegated to the background, and editors are holding up the mirror of public opinion to show youthful offenders the true light in which they are regarded by respectable and law-abiding people.

Recently there appeared in the London Advertiser a thoughtful and forceful editorial which showed that criminals, instead of being bold and daring, are in reality mere weaklings, with no initiative, and no courage, and cowardly enough to take advantage of peaceful citizens which is only possible through high-powered cars and revolvers. No special brain power is required of a criminal these days. "Occasionally," says the Advertiser, "one man has the wit to originate a new plan of plunder, but he is likely to be followed by a host of imitators. A psychological examination of the criminals would probably reveal the presence of a considerable number of weaklings, who merely follow fashions in crime, or are the tools of some leader of real, though perverted ability."

This comment was occasioned by the revelation that the men who were foiled in their attempt to rob the bank of Commerce in Hamilton were under the influence of intoxicants and drugs. Nerve was needed to carry through the plan they had devised, or copied, and the poor simpletons had to bolster up their courage with drugs and liquor, even though they had all the cards stacked in their favor. This lays bare the false "heroism" so often attributed to the perpetrators of such "reckless" hold-ups.

The Advertiser goes on to further lay emphasis upon the sad lack of judgment in the young man who enters a life of crime. There is no glory, very little adventure, and absolutely no satisfaction of mind to the boy or young man who thoughtlessly makes the first mis-step. The common experience of criminals, the London newspaper says, is sordid and dreary. They never live at good hotels, and the only pleasures they get are absorbed in some questionable night club, or in the slums or the meanest quarters of the bigger cities. On top of this, very few of them escape punishment and imprisonment.

The unfortunate part of it is that careers of crime are chosen by young men at a time when their judgment is undeveloped; and when they once start, it is difficult for them to get back into the straight and narrow path. This draws attention to the value of home training. Early in their lives boys should be impressed with the fact that crime is not only immoral—it doesn't pay, and it leads to personal discontent and unhappiness and everlasting regret.

OLD AGE

In the heyday of youth, in the strength of middle age do you ever stop to think of the old man, or the old woman you will have to take care of some day, if your life is spared.

The young sometimes pity the old lady sitting quietly behind the spectacles, or the old man walking slowly and looking at the sky. Pity is not needed when the old man or old woman are independent. There is joy in relief from responsibility and from striving. There is intense happiness in possessing leisure to contemplate the earth and human existence and the goodness of the power by which all things here are ruled.

There is one simple rule that will bring you to this happy stage when old age comes. That simple rule is: Save as you go. Just as you would save your food and water if you set out for a long voyage across troubled seas. The further you go into the unknown expanse, the more you depend on your fresh water supply. The further you go into old age, the more you depend on that which makes old age what it should be, an age of thoughtful independence. And the thing needed most is money, wisely and safely invested.

Remember for the waster, the spendthrift and the idler the road still leads over the hill to the poor house and thousands who thought that it was more important to make a good showing among their friends will find old age a hateful time of worry and anxiety. The evening of life should mean the age of blessed peace and release from responsibility, but many find it a hateful time of worry and anxiety. Save for the old man and the old woman.—

In regard to the tips which are so plentiful in these days of popular speculation it might be said that most of them are whispered from the house-tops.

Will Rogers, whirling his lasso, remarks: "All I know is what I see in the papers," and everybody laughs. Why? Will Rogers has apparently secured a very adequate practical education in this way. He passes for a wiser man than many college graduates and not a few professors.

Wi' Beson and Stane

"The Wicked Stand In Slippery Places"
 —But So Do Curlers.

The soft weather of the early winter threatened the success of the season of the great Scottish national game but the cold snap over the week end came as a relief to addicts of the "roarin' game and this week they have been "hard at it." This is the time of year that your curling friend refuses to talk anything but "curling" and as he talks to you he wonders what kind of a forlorn and unfortunate human being you are anyway that you don't curl.

So many of your friends curl that you feel that perhaps it might be a good idea to have a go at it. They seem to have all kinds of fun and to win all manner of cups, tankards and other vessels of conviviality. No use to you, of course, but it might please the wife to bring one home occasionally. She could use it for her ferns or geraniums.

The trouble is that you don't know anything about the game, and are a little afraid of venturing. "The wicked stand in slippery places," says a well-known authority. Curlers are apparently able to do the same thing without an effort, but you do not come under either heading, so far, and you are naturally a bit nervous.

Well, curling isn't as hard as it looks. If you follow the advice given here, written especially by an expert for the guidance of the novice, you will be a curler, even a Skip, in no time.

The implements required are few, and easily obtained. Just a pair of stones, or "stones" which may be procured from the nearest tombstone merchant, and a broom. The broom is usually purloined from the kitchen by the beginner. In the case of the experienced player (whose wife keeps the broom hidden), it is customary to get down to the rink a little early and obtain some one else's broom in as anonymous a manner as possible.

Young players are often inclined to think that they could do better with a carpet sweeper than a broom on the ice, and numerous attempts have been made to introduce it. There is little doubt that it would improve the game but the curlers as a class are hard old crusted conservative sportsmen. They take no note of the march of progress.

There was once a curling club of young players in a town in Western Ontario. Hydro was more of a novelty than it is now, and an attempt was made to do away with the use of brooms altogether, and utilize an electrically driven vacuum cleaner.

"Let Niagara Falls soop'er up," was the slogan. The innovation, sad to relate, was a complete failure, and the broom reigns supreme.

The beginner is often puzzled by the words used by the players, for curling has a language of its own. "Soop'er up," means to sweep the ice. The House is a circle drawn at each end of the rink, where the Skip stands. It is most important to remember that the Captain of each side is called the skip. The Hog is simply a line drawn across the ice a little way down the rink. The two terms are often confused by the novice. He is told to sweep right up to the Hog, and he keeps his broom going like mad till he bumps into his Commanding Officer. You will see, when you read later about the skip, how important it is to remember this distinction.

You are now ready to commence to play, which you do by grasping the handle of your stane and propelling it along the ice in the general direction of the skip at the other end. During the first few years you will invariably fall down as you do this. Even old players do so regularly. Great care should be exercised not to fall forward across your stane. It retards its progress along the ice, impairs your digestion, and infuriates your skip. Much better simply to lie quietly on the ice behind you.

Little remains to be said of the actual play, which is simplicity itself. The language, however, presents some difficulties. You will probably run across some acquaintance and he will be wearing a tam o'shanter with a red bulb on it, and he will say to you: "A wee bit slaw, but a bonnie shot ma braw laddie."

This is Scottish for "Attaboy." It will take a good deal of time and study to master the language, and a useful scheme for the novice is to commit to memory some easy phrase which can be used on all occasions, such as: "It's a braw bricht moonlicht nicht the nicht."

Curlers always dress in such a manner as to conceal their identity. Consequently, if a broom gets tangled up with your legs and upsets you and you crack a couple of ribs, it will be

wise to put a check on your feelings, and be moderate in your language.

That hard looking citizen in the red sweater standing near you is probably the minister of the biggest church in town, and the seedy individual with the mackinaw coat as likely as not owns a big business down town. You can never judge by appearances on the curling ice. A safe rule is to be civil and polite to everybody until you are promoted to be a skip, and then reverse the process.

The ambition of every curler is to become a skip. The beginner, through all the years of his apprenticeship, should keep this goal before him. The Skip is King, an Emperor, a Sergeant Major. His word is law. You must put up with his rebukes, his sarcasm, his abuse in humble silence. Grin and bear it. You too, will be a skip some day.

Doris McDonald, the 20-year-old woman under sentence of death for the murder of a Montreal taxi driver, blames her terrible downfall on two circumstances — first, when she was a child she was adopted in a family where religious training or belief of any kind was unknown; secondly, good times, gay parties and wild nights. A terrible beginning and the logical end!

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When selling the senior securities of such Companies we have, wherever possible, given our clients a bonus of common stock, or share purchase warrants at a low price, thus permitting them to participate in the future expansion and profits of such Companies whilst receiving a good return on their investment through their holdings of senior securities.

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Firm in the belief that Canada's development during the next ten years will be much greater than during the past ten, it is our intention to continue whenever possible to give our clients an interest in the equities, either in the form of a bonus with the purchase of senior securities, or through share purchase warrants.

In this way the investor participates in the future success and growth of such industries.

Every Canadian should be interested in building a greater Canada, by helping in the development of our vast natural resources.

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